

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/720,149

Examiner

Tse Chen

Applicant(s)

WAUTERS ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication filed on 21 January 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3,4 and 7.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 December 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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DETAILED ACTION

1. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed of record in the file: Amendment dated January 21, 2005.
2. Claims 3-4 and 7 are presented for examination. Applicant has canceled claims 1-2, 5-6, and 8-12.

Examiner's Amendment

3. An examiner's amendment of record appears below. Should changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
4. The application has been amended as follows:
5. Pursuant to MPEP 606.01, the title has been changed to read:
6. – DEVICE CONFIGURED AS STAND-ALONE OR SLAVE BASED ON
DETECTION OF POWER SUPPLY IN A POWERED DATA BUS SYSTEM –

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 3-4 and 7 are allowed.
8. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's reply must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 CFR 1.111(b) and MPEP § 707.07(a).
9. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the claims are allowable because none of the references cited, either alone or in combination discloses or renders obvious a device "for use in a data bus system, wherein the bus system comprises a host station, a bus cable and the device coupled to the host station via the bus

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cable, the bus cable comprising a data transfer conductor and power supply conductors for enabling the device to obtain operating power from the bus system via the bus cable, the device comprising a connector for coupling the device to the bus cable, and a control circuit coupled to the connector, wherein the control circuit is arranged to detect whether a power supply is connected to the power supply conductors and to start waiting in a slave mode commands received via the data transfer conductor or to start operating in a stand alone mode, dependent on whether or not connection of the power supply has been detected respectively, and wherein the bus system further comprises a pull circuit for pulling a potential of the data transfer conductor away from a potential of a first one of the power supply conductors, the bus system being arranged to detect whether or not the potential of the data transfer conductor is pulled back to the potential of the first one of the power supply conductors via the bus cable so as to determine whether the device is connected to the bus cable, the device comprising a first resistive element and a switching element, connected in series between the data transfer conductor and a pull back potential source, the device comprising a node coupled to a control electrode of the switching element, a second and third resistive element coupled between the node and the first one and a second one of the power supply conductors respectively, so that the switching element is non-conductive when a potential of the node is affected only by the power supplied via the power supply conductors via the second and third resistive element, the control circuit having an i/o connection coupled to the node, the control circuit switching the i/o connection as an input to detect whether power is supplied via the power supply conductors and the control switching the i/o connection as an output to make the

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switching element conductive to enable pull back” and similarly the device with the specific composition and configuration as stipulated in claim 7.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tse Chen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3672.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9AM - 5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne Browne can be reached on (571) 272-3670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tse Chen
January 31, 2005


LYNNE H. BROWNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100